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RARE RED-NAPED SAPSUCKER IN TILDEN PARK, BERKELEY

On the Audubon trip of March 22, the sapsucker seen by some of the group was the rare red-naped sapsucker, not the fairly common red-breasted sapsucker. These birds are at present both considered as subspecies of the yellow-bellied sapsucker, but some authorities believe they may be separate species. At any rate they are quite readily distinguishable in the field. The red-breasted having a complete red head and breast, while the red-naped has markings of black and white on the partially red head and breast. Grinnell and Miller (1944) list only 4 records from the San Francisco Bay area, and Sibley in his recent publication "The Birds of the South San Francisco Bay Region" (1952) lists only one other record. None of these records is from the Berkeley Hills so the above apparently is a first record for this area.

A. LAURENCE CURL

April — PINNACLES OVERNIGHT — Trip

Due to the abundant display of wildflowers — hillsides magenta with Owl's Clover — and a good variety of birds, the overnight camping trip was enjoyed by seventeen people — April 26 - 27.

Saturday afternoon's walk into the Old Cave's portion of the National Monument was pleasant and brought close views of Canyon Wrens, Golden Eagles, and Ash-throated Flycatchers.

Black-headed Grosbeaks filled the canyons with melody, the first one being heard at 4:12 A.M., Sunday morning.

After a leisurely breakfast, we took the short but interesting walk over the spectacular High Peaks section of the Monument where the jumble of colorful crags, canyons, and cliffs affords a haven for such species as Rock Wrens, Gnatcatchers, and Ravens.

As we neared the summit the huge rocks resounded with the long-drawn out whining scream of the Prairie Falcon and before long our fondest hopes were realized when we caught a glimpse of this impressive bird. Another short climb and we were able to have lunch and watch the Prairie Falcon at the same time — a rare treat. The bird would occasionally perch on ledges for a period of several minutes enabling us to focus the 20 power telescope on it.

The following 48 species were observed: Turkey vulture; red-tailed and sparrow hawk; prairie falcon; golden eagle; Calif. quail; mourning dove; white-throated swift; Anna hummingbird; red-shafted flicker; Calif., hairy and Nuttall woodpecker; western kingbird; ash-throated flycatcher; black phoebe; western flycatcher; wood pewee; violet-green swallow; scrub-jay; yellow-billed magpie; raven; plain titmouse; bush-tit; white-breasted nuthatch; wren-tit; house and Bewick wren; canyon and rock wren; Calif.

thrasher; olive-backed (russet) thrush; west. bluebird; west. gnatcatcher; Hutton and warbling vireo; orange-crowned warbler; west. meadowlark; red-winged blackbird; black-headed grosbeak; house finch; lesser (green-backed) goldfinch; spotted and brown towhee; lark sparrow; Oregon junco; chip-ping and song sparrow.

—HARRY C. ADAMSON, *Leader and Historian*.

May — McCOY RANCH — Trip

Fair weather greeted us when on Sunday, May 4th we made the annual trek to the Arroyo Mocho. Approximately forty-five persons turned out to enjoy seeing such birds as the Golden Eagle, Phainopepla, Chat and Lewis Woodpecker.

A California Thrasher put on a fine show singing lustily from atop a tree. A Red-tailed Hawk made repeated dives at an immature Golden Eagle which was probably trespassing on the hawk's territory. In addition to the birds, there were some interesting reptiles found. These included Pacific Terrapin, Pacific Horned Lizard, Garter Snake and the beautiful Boyle's King Snake.

Western Tanager and Lincoln Sparrow were two noteworthy migrants seen in the vicinity of the ranch.

At the bridge spanning the Mocho some two miles upstream from the McCoy Ranch, Phainopeplas were observed and excellent views were had of the handsome Bullock Orioles.

The day's list included the following forty-nine species:

Turkey vulture; red-tailed hawk; golden eagle; sparrowhawk; California quail; killdeer; mourning dove; barn owl; Anna hummingbird; red-shafted flicker; Calif., Lewis and Nuttall woodpecker; western kingbird; ash-throated flycatcher; black phoebe; western flycatcher; west. wood pewee; violet-green, barn and cliff swallow; scrub jay; yellow-billed magpie; plain titmouse; house and Bewick wren; western mockingbird; California thrasher; olive-backed (russet) thrush; western bluebird; cedar waxing; phainopepla; loggerhead shrike; warbling vireo; orange-crowned and yellow warbler; chat; pileolated warbler; western meadowlark; red-winged blackbird; Bullock oriole; Brewer blackbird; western tanager; black-headed grosbeak; house finch; lesser goldfinch; brown towhee; Oregon junco; Lincoln sparrow.

—HARRY C. ADAMSON, *Leader and Historian*.

May — ST. MARY'S COLLEGE — Trip

On Saturday, May 17, the annual St. Mary's College trip led by Arthur Myer drew a crowd of about 30. In contrast to the weather in recent years, it was warm and sunny all day. This resulted in the group being a bit less energetic than usual; perhaps the birds were also affected as the list was the smallest since 1948. The only water birds seen at the lake were two spotted sandpipers and a killdeer. No Lawrence goldfinch was seen this year. After most of the group had left, a pair of Macgillivray warblers were seen across the road from the lunch spot. They remained here rather persistently, suggesting that they might be nesting or contemplating nesting nearby. The following 56 species were observed:

Great blue heron; turkey vulture; red-tailed and sparrow hawk; Calif. quail; killdeer; spotted sandpiper; mourning dove; Anna hummingbird; Calif., downy and Nuttall woodpecker; ash-throated, western and olive-sided flycatcher; black phoebe; w. wood pewee; rough-winged and cliff swallow; Steller and scrub jay; plain titmouse; bush-tit; white-breasted nuthatch; wren-tit; house and Bewick wren; robin; olive-backed (russet) thrush; w. bluebird;

blue-gray gnatcatcher; cedar waxwing; Hutton, solitary and warbling vireo; orange-crowned, yellow, Macgillivray and pilcolated warbler; house sparrow; w. meadowlark; red-winged and Brewer blackbird; Bullock oriole; w. tanager; black-headed grosbeak; lazuli bunting; purple and house finch; Am. and lesser goldfinch; spotted and brown towhee; Oregon junco; chipping and song sparrow.

— A. LAURENCE CURL, *Historian*.

Magazine Articles; "ARIZONA AND ITS BIRD LIFE" by Herbert Bradt, in *Arizona Highways*, May 1952, with eight full-page illustrations in color by Roger Tory Peterson and Allan Brooks. Of the almost "650 full species of birds now breeding north of Mexico . . . more than a fourth of these, or 170, nest . . . in the southeastern corner of Arizona."

In *Natural History*, January 1952 "THE FRIENDLIEST BIRD I KNOW" by Hugo H. Schroder. This Florida jay made no objections to having her back stroked while on the nest nor to being posed for the photographer. "BROLEY BANDS 'EM HIGH" by Myrtle L. Broley. His hobby is banding young eagles in their nests in the tops of trees in Florida. After raising their young in winter, the eagles migrate to higher and colder latitudes in summer. A case of "reverse migration".

In *The Observer*, a publication of the Sacramento Audubon Society, January-February 1952. "BUSY BIRDS" by Fred G. Evenden, Jr. By March 10th house finches were building a nest "in a 15-foot-long narrow strip of variegated ivy hanging from the eave of our front porch." Three nests were destroyed by house sparrows. "The finches built a fourth nest by May 7th and five young left this nest by June 13th." While the adults were feeding young in nest 4, they were brooding eggs in nest 5. . . . "five young left nest 5 by June 26th. The day after . . . a new nest was started . . . but destroyed by house sparrows. On July 7th and 8th the finches built a seventh nest . . . three young left this nest by August 12th. Thus of seven nesting attempts, presumably by the same pair of finches, three were successful, producing 13 young." All were banded.

CALIFORNIA AUDUBON CAMP. The camperships to a two-weeks' session were given to Miss Joanne Lowry, Mrs. Carolyn Hoover and Mrs. Virginia L. Cameron. It is a broadening and stimulating experience to spend two weeks with able leaders and enthusiastic attendants amid the high altitudes of the Sierra. You, also, may take advantage of this opportunity. Make arrangements with National Audubon Society, 693 Sutter St. Room 201. PRos. 5-4042.

NEW MEMBERS: We welcome the following: from San Francisco, Miss Olive G. Bartlett, Dr. R. P. Parsons, Ensign R. A. Ryder; from Berkeley, Mr. Edward T. Houghton, Mrs. Alfred Hurtgen; from Porterville, Mr. & Mrs. Cassius M. Davis; from Tokyo, Japan, Mr. Hiroyuki Morioka.

NATURAL HISTORY LECTURE: Sunday, June 8th, 3 p.m. Brazilian Room, Tilden Regional Park. "Butterflies of the Bay Region" by John W. MacSwain, of the Entomology Department, University of California. The public is invited.

June — PINE CANYON — Trip

On Sunday, June 8. to Pine Canyon where Bell Sparrows and other birds of the chaparral are found along with such cliff nesters as Turkey Vultures. Horned Owls. and White-throated Swifts.

This is a new trip. We will meet in front of the Walnut Creek City Hall on Ygnacio Street at 8:30 A.M. and proceed by car caravan to our destination. Note that this trip falls on the Sunday before the monthly meeting.

From where we leave the cars there will be a short walk upstream to the point where the face of the cliff can be viewed to advantage. There will be a more strenuous trip among the rocks for those who desire to do so.

Lunch may be eaten at the cliffs in which case a canteen or bottle of drinking water would be an excellent thing to bring. There is a picnic area nearby and also a swimming pool but there is a charge of twenty-five cents for the use of these facilities. As we will be in private property which is extremely vulnerable to fire at this season there will be no smoking allowed while we are in the danger area. Bring lunch and interested friends. Leaders, Dr. and Mrs. Lynn Foree. GLencourt 2-4755.

June — LAND'S END — Trip

Saturday, June 21, to the Land's End area in north-west San Francisco. Nesting Pigeon Guillemots are often seen on this trip, and Shearwaters may sometimes be observed from shore at this time of year. Meet at Point Lobos Ave. and Camino Del Mar at 9:00 A.M. Adjacent spots such as the Cliff House and Lincoln Park will probably also be covered. Leaders, Mr. and Mrs. George T. Kilham, ORdway 3-4262.

— HARRY C. ADAMSON, *Chairman*
Field Trips Committee.

JUNE MEETING

The 417th meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society will be held June 12th, following a six o'clock picnic supper at the Codornices Fireplace, Euclid Avenue, opposite the Rose Garden, in Berkeley. Bus #7. Bring supper and "faggots" for the campfire! Members who have been traveling will give the highlights of their bird observations for another "Birding Far Afield" program.

— DOROTHY DEAN SCOTT, *Program Chairman.*

Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.

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For the Study and the Protection of Birds Branch of National Audubon Society

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Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p. m.

Joint Membership, Local & National \$5.00 per Year, includes Audubon Magazine
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